

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 RSC-01

AEC-11 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 L-03 NSF-04 NSC-07 PM-07 SCI-06

SS-20 SPC-03 FEA-02 SIL-01 LAB-06 TRSE-00 XMB-07

SPM-01 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 OIC-04 DRC-01 NSA-02

OMB-01 ABF-01 /247 W

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R 181230Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6107

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR IAEA AND UNIDO

PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, SENV

SUBJ: UNEP - GCII: ITEM 6 & 7, CONTINUATION GENERAL

DEBATE, MAR. 13, A.M.

SUMMARY: GENERAL DEBATE CONTINUED WITH ED ELABORATION OF PROGRAM
ACTIVITY CENTER CONCEPT (PAC) AND THIRTEEN COUNTRY STATEMENTS.

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HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

1. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STRONG, IN RESPONSE NUMEROUS QUESTIONS ON PAC, SAID TERM RELATED TO METHOD OF WORK, MEANS OF CARRYING OUT DECISIONS OF COUNCIL, NOT ADDITION TO PROGRAM ITSELF. SAID USE PAC DESIGNED AVOID DUPLICATION RESOURCES. PRIMARY TEST WOULD BE WHETHER USE OF PAC, WHICH IN ALL CASES WOULD BE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO UNEP/ED, WOULD ECONOMIZE RESOURCES OF UNEP AND MAXIMIZE CONTRIBUTION OF OTHERS. IN RESPONSE SWEDISH QUERY, STRONG SAID HE HAD ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO ENSURE UNEP ROLE IN MID-TERM IDS REVIEW. UNEP WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE FULLY TO FORTHCOMING SPECIAL UN61 SESSION, "WHICH BEARS CLOSELY ON UNEP'S RESPONSIBILITIES."

2. AUSTRALIA: IN HARD-HITTING, HIGHLY CRITICAL BUT CONSTRUCTIVE STATEMENT, URGED COUNCIL TO IMPROVE ITS PERFORMANCE OVER GC-I. AT TOP OF PRIORITIES SHOULD BE PROGRAMS ENVISAGED UNDER EARTHWATCH, AS WELL AS NEED ATTACK DEPRESSING PROBLEM OF SUB-STANDARD AND IN-ADEQUATE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS. PROTECTION MARINE ENVIRONMENT, MEASURES TO PREVENT LOSS OF SOILS THROUGH EROSION ALSO SHOULD RECEIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION. DEPLORED BUT DID NOT DWELL ON CONTINUATION NUCLEAR TESTING. CRITICIZED SECRETARIAT FOR FAILURE TO PUSH DEVELOPMENT POLLUTION MONITORING SYSTEM AT FASTER PACE. SAID AUSTRALIA READY SINCE STOCKHOLM TO ESTABLISH BASE LINE ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING STATION AS PART OF GLOBAL SYSTEM, BUT IN "TOTAL ABSENCE" ANY DEFINITIVE GUIDANCE FROM UNEP HAD BEEN HESITANT MOVE AHEAD.

3. TURKEY: SAW POPULATION AND INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSIONS AS MAJOR FACTORS TODAY TREATENING EQUILLIBRIUM OF NATURE. CRITICIZED DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR INDIFFERENCE TO INCREASING GAP BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HOPED CONCEPT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS IN UNEP WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD AS "MULTI-ASPECT WAY OF LIFE" COVERING WORK, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH AND LEISURE AS WELL AS HABITAT. SEES HABITAT 2000 AS PROMOTING THIS UNDERSTANDING.

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4. USSR: SEES INCREASING NEED FOR ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS OF ENVIRONMENT AND DETENTE HAS MADE POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS. ATTACHES SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON NATIONAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES, SINCE MOT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS MUST BE SOLVED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. EMPHASIZED NEED FOR COORDINATION UN PROGRAMS AND SEES NEED AVOID DUPLICATION AND OVERLAP AS PRIMARY ROLE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATION BOARD.

5. TUNIS: MOST URGENT NEED ARE PROGRAM DESIGNED TO RESTORE LANDS RAVAGED BY DROUGHT AND DESERTIFICATION. POLLUTION OF MEDITERRANEAN OF GREAT CONCERN AND PREDICATED MED WOULD LOOK LIKE DEAD SEA BY END OF CENTURY UNLESS URGENT CORRECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN. OFFERED HOST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROBLEM AND URGED INTER-VENTION BY UNEP.

6. INDIA: FELT PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ACTIVITIES HAVING DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE RELEVANCE TO LIVES OF MILLIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ENDORSED CONCEPT OF PAC AS MEANS BUILDING UP CAPACITIES OF EXISTING INSTITUTION. SAID RESPONSIBILITY OF COUNCIL TO ENSURE THAT UNEP FULFILL COORDINATING ROLE ASSIGNED IT. ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FUND, CRITICIZED REPORT WHICH INDIA BELIEVES NEEDS BE SHARPENED AND WOULD MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS WHEN ITEM II REACHED. URGED UNEP ACTION IN SPEARHEADING WORK ON GUIDELINES ON DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF WEATHER MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES.

7. U.K.: DWELT AT LENGTH ON BRITISH ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES AS PRELUDE TO ASSESSMENT UNEP ROLE. ENDORSED IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND DEVELOPMENT TECHNOLOGY AND IDEA OF PILOT PROJECTS TO DEMONSTRATE ALTERNATIVE PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT. ENDORSED ACTION TO CONSERVE WORLD'S GENETIC RESOURCES. THOUGHT IT UNWISE FOR UNEP TO GET INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL LAW OR ENERGY.

8. ROMANIA: EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE UNEP'S PROGRAMS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND PLACED HIGH PRIORITY ON EXCHANGE OF NATIONAL EXPERIENCE.
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9. SRI LANKA: EMPHASIZED UNEP'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ACCORD PRIORITY TO PROBLEMS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THOUGHT ENERGY, IN LIGHT PRESENT CRISIS, SHOULD BE ACCORDED HIGHER PRIORITY THAN AT GC-1 AND IN ED'S PROPOSALS. THOUGHT ALL COUNTRIES WOULD BENEFIT FROM PROGRAMS OF EARTHWATCH. UNEP IN UNIQUE POSITION MAKE MAJOR INTERVENTION IN LOS.

10. ZAIRE: URGED UNEP GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO REALIZATION PRINCIPLE I OF STOCKHOLM DECLARATION AND THOUGHT COUNTRIES NOT LIVING UP TO THAT PRINCIPLE SHOULD BE DENIED RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN UNEP.

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11. FRANCE: THOUGHT UNEP SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON LIMITED NUMBER PROGRAMS IN WHICH RESULTS COULD BE QUICKLY ACHIEVED. EMPHASIZED COORDINATING ROLE OF UNEP. PRIORITY ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARINE ENVIRONMENT, GENETIC RESOURCES, EARTHWATCH, SOILS AND DESERTIFICATION, TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. NOT IN INTERESTS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES EXCESSIVELY EXPAND UNEP'S EFFORTS ON THEIR BEHALF. WOULD ONLY DISSIPATE LIMITED RESOURCES WITHOUT TANGIBLE RESULTS. HIGHLY CRITICAL OF HABITAT 2000 AND THOUGHT MONEY SPENT ON THAT CONFERENCE COULD MOVE PRODUCTIVELY BE DEVOTED TO PROGRAMS ON DESERTIFICATION. URGED UNEP FUND BE SPENT ON ACTION, NOT STUDIES.

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12. POLAND: DESCRIBED POLAND'S COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM AND EXPRESSED DESIRE POLAND TO PARTICIPATE IN GLOBAL PROGRAMS. EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

13. JORDAN: GENERALLY ENDORSED ED'S PROPOSALS. GAVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO PROBLEMS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND MARINE PROTECTION.

14. PORTUGAL: AM SESSION CONCLUDED WITH THIS STATEMENT AND WALKOUT OF ALL AFRICAN DELEGATIONS AND PRG. OTHER DELEGATIONS OBSERVED LEAVING AT SAME TIME PROBABLY SIMPLY GOING TO LUNCH. PORTUGAL GENERALLY ENDORSED ED'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ANNOUNCED \$10,000 CONTRIBUTION TO FUND.
MARSHALL

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Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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